

Utility vehicles have higher ground clearance and a narrower track to make them capable of performing in a wide variety of off-road applications. Specific design characteristics give them a higher center of gravity than ordinary cars. An advantage of the higher ground clearance is a better view of the road allowing you to anticipate problems. They are not designed for cornering at the same speeds as conventional 2-wheel drive vehicles any more than low-slung sports cars are designed to perform satisfactorily under off-road conditions. If at all possible, avoid sharp turns or abrupt maneuvers. As with other vehicles of this type, failure to operate this vehicle correctly may result in loss of control or vehicle rollover.

[49 FR 20019, May 11, 1984, as amended at 49 FR 32071, Aug. 10, 1984]

## PART 576—RECORD RETENTION

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AUTHORITY: 49 U.S.C. 30112, 30115, 30117–121, 30166–167; delegation of authority at 49 CFR 1.50.

SOURCE: 39 FR 30045, Aug. 20, 1974, unless otherwise noted.

EDITORIAL NOTE: For an interpretation document regarding part 576, see 40 FR 3296, Jan. 21, 1975.

### § 576.1 Scope.

This part establishes requirements for the retention by motor vehicle manufacturers of complaints, reports, and other records concerning motor vehicle malfunctions that may be related to motor vehicle safety.

### § 576.2 Purpose.

The purpose of this part is to preserve records that are needed for the proper investigation, and adjudication or other disposition, of possible defects related to motor vehicle safety and instances of nonconformity to the motor vehicle safety standards and associated regulations.

### § 576.3 Application.

This part applies to all manufacturers of motor vehicles, with respect to

all records generated or acquired after August 15, 1969.

### § 576.4 Definitions.

All terms in this part that are defined in the Act are used as defined therein.

### § 576.5 Basic requirements.

Each manufacturer of motor vehicles shall retain as specified in § 576.7 all records described in § 576.6 for a period of five years from the date on which they were generated or acquired by the manufacturer.

[61 FR 278, Jan. 4, 1996]

### § 576.6 Records.

Records to be retained by manufacturers under this part include all documentary materials, films, tapes, and other information-storing media that contain information concerning malfunctions that may be related to motor vehicle safety. Such records include, but are not limited to, communications from vehicle users and memoranda of user complaints; reports and other documents, including material generated or communicated by computer, telefax or other electronic means, that are related to work performed under, or claims made under, warranties; service reports or similar documents, including electronic transmissions, from dealers or manufacturer's field personnel; and any lists, compilations, analyses, or discussions of such malfunctions contained in internal or external correspondence of the manufacturer, including communications transmitted electronically.

[61 FR 278, Jan. 4, 1996]

### § 576.7 Retention.

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